

**STATE PLANNING COUNCIL
STATEWIDE PLANNING PROGRAM
RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908-5870**

PUBLIC NOTICE

**RECERTIFICATION OF THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION (MPO)
BY THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION (FHWA) AND FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION (FTA)**

Federal regulations (23 CFR Part 450 and 49 CFR Part 613) require that the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration jointly certify that the transportation planning process in areas with a population over 200,000 complies with those regulations at least once every four years. The deadline for completion the current certification is October 1, 2009.

The review consists of a documentary review called a desk audit and a meeting with transportation planning staff. The Federal review team is also required to solicit input from the general public and local elected officials during the course of the review. The Federal team would especially like to hear the public's input on how well they are involved in the process, if they are given the information that they need to become involved, whether the way in which they can get involved is clearly explained, and whether they feel their input is considered and addressed by the State Planning Council, MPO for the State of Rhode Island.

The public is invited to submit comments, in person or in writing, related to the transportation planning process and public outreach activities associated with the Long Range Plan, the Transportation Improvement Program, the Unified Planning Work Program, the Highway Functional Classification, and other relevant activities of the MPO.


The State Planning Council's Transportation Advisory Committee will conduct a public hearing to accept comments at a meeting scheduled for:

Wednesday, September 30, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.
Rhode Island Department of Administration
Conference Room A
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908

The meeting location is accessible to handicapped persons. Those requiring any accommodation for disabilities must notify Ms. Dawn Vittorioso at (401) 222-7901 not less than 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Written comments may also be submitted to Peter W. Osborn, FHWA, RI Division Administrator, 380 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903 or to Richard H. Doyle, FTA Regional Administrator, 55 Broadway, Kendall Square, Cambridge, MA 02142.

After all parts of the review are complete, the Federal team will issue a report that contains the certification decision as well as observations and suggestions for strengthening the process. The report will be shared with those submitting comments should they so desire.


Jared Rhodes
Secretary
State Planning Council